

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic gain control (AGC) circuit comprising:  
~~comprising~~  
~~a digitally~~ ~~digitally~~-controlled amplifier ~~being provided~~  
~~with~~~~having~~ a gain control loop including a level detector, a  
5 threshold circuit and a digital gain control signal generator ~~being~~  
coupled to a gain control input of the ~~digitally~~-controlled  
amplifier for supplying thereto a digital gain control signal,  
characterized ~~by~~ ~~in~~ that said AGC circuit further comprises:  
~~in~~  
a ~~continuously~~ ~~continuously~~-controlled amplifier ~~being~~  
10 coupled between an output of the ~~digitally~~ ~~digitally~~-controlled  
amplifier and the level detector, an output of the level detector  
~~further~~ being coupled to a gain control input of the ~~continuously~~  
~~continuously~~-controlled amplifier for supplying thereto an  
continuous gain control signal, the gain variation range of the  
15 ~~continuously~~ ~~continuously~~-controlled amplifier at least  
corresponding to ~~the~~ ~~a~~ gain step variation of the ~~digitally~~  
~~digitally~~-controlled amplifier at an incremental step of said  
digital gain control signal.

2. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 1, characterized by in that said AGC circuit further  
comprises:

5 a loop filter being coupled between the output of the  
level detector, ~~on the one hand~~ and the gain control input of the  
continuously controlled amplifier and an input of the threshold  
~~on the other hand~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 1, characterized in that the threshold circuit comprises  
first and second comparators for comparing ~~the an~~ output signal of  
the level detector with positive and negative threshold levels  
5 around a zero level for initiating the digital gain control signal  
generator for a stepwise variation of the gain of the digitally  
digitally-controlled amplifier.

4. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 43, characterized in that the digital gain control signal  
generator comprises a pulse generator coupled to a clock-signal  
input of a digital counter for supplying a clock-signal thereto,  
5 the threshold circuit including a third comparator for comparing  
the output signal of the level detector with a zero level, an  
output of the third comparator being coupled to an up/down input of  
the counter.

5. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 3, characterized in that the gain variation range of the  
continuously-continuously-controlled amplifier is defined by  
the-a range of the continuous gain control signal between the  
5 negative and positive threshold levels, corresponds at least to the  
gain variation of the digitally-digital-controlled amplifier over  
two consecutive incremental steps of said digital gain control  
signal.

6. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 4, characterized in that the time period between two  
consecutive clock pulses of the clock-signal is chosen sufficiently  
large to prevent superposition of subsequent gain step variations  
5 of the digitally-digital-controlled amplifier from occurring.

7. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed  
in claim 4, characterized in that the-a time-constant of the loop-  
filter is chosen sufficiently large to prevent regenerative  
feedback of the gain control signal in the AGC loop from occurring.

8. (Currently Amended) Receiver A receiver for digitally  
digitally-modulated signals comprising an AGC circuit as claimed in  
claim 1, characterized by-in that said receiver further comprises:

an RF input filter for receiving digitally-modulated  
5 signals, said the digitally-digital-controlled amplifier of said  
AGC circuit being coupled between to an output of said RF input  
filter and;

a phase quadrature mixer stage, coupled to the output of  
said digitally-controlled amplifier;

10 respective frequency selective means coupled to phase  
quadrature outputs of said phase quadrature mixer stage; thereof  
being coupled through frequency selective means to  
a pair of phase quadrature continuously-continuously-  
controlled amplifiers forming said continuously-controlled  
15 amplifier of said AGC circuit, this; and

respective analog-to-digital converters coupling said pair  
of phase quadrature continuously-continuously-controlled amplifiers  
being coupled through to a pair of phase quadrature analogue-to  
digital converters to said the level detector of said AGC circuit.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Receiver~~ The receiver as claimed in  
claim 8, characterized in that the receiver is a DAB receiver.